Notice No 613—*Mis.* 275, *dated* 20*th March* 1898.

Intimation has been received that in view to avoid risk of plague infection, the Balutra Fair advertised to be held from 18th to 31st March 1898, has been abandoned by the Marwar Durbar.

V. P. MADHAVA RAO,
Plague Comr. in Mysore.

The following papers are published for general information:—

V. P. MADHAVA RAO,
Plague Comr. in Mysore.

Telegram No. 350, *dated the* 21*st February* 1898.

From the Viceroy, Calcutta, to the Secretary of State, London.

Continuation my telegram 14th instant. Following plague seizures and deaths reported from places outside Bombay Presidency: North-Western Provinces—Sahranpur district, seizures 8, deaths 6. Punjab—Jullunder district: seizures 66, deaths 30; one new village attacked. Hoshirpur district: seizures 8 deaths 3; one new village attacked. Rajputana—Sirohi State: seizures 7, deaths 9. Hyderabad State—Naldrug district, 130 deaths reported from 16 villages in addition to deaths reported in my last telegram and 4 cases in one other village. Plague said to exist in all villages within radius 30 miles of Ganguti and total 450 deaths reported to have occurred in them up to 17th. Since evacuation of these villages few new cases reported. Gulbarga district: 4 deaths. Resident telegraphed 17th, 220 imported cases, plague had occurred at Wadi, but plague not endemic there. We have telegraphed for explanation and details of this large number imported cases. No plague reported elsewhere.

Telegram No 403, *dated the* 25*th February* 1898.

From the Viceroy, Calcutta, to the Secretary of State, London.

Continuation of my telegram 350 of 21st instant occurrence 220 cases plague at Wadi wrongly reported owing to mistake in transmitting Resident's message of 17th. No cases occurred.

Telegram No. 407, *dated the* 28*th February* 1898.

From the Viceroy, Calcutta, to the Secretary of State, London.

Following plague seizures and deaths reported from places outside the Bombay Presidency since 21st instant: North-Western Provinces—Sahranpur district: seizures 14, deaths 12, of which 10 seizures and 8 deaths in Jawalapur town. Punjab—Jullander district: seizures 108, deaths 74; 2 new villages attacked. Hosahiarpur district: seizures 18, deaths 7; 1 new village attacked. Rajputana—Sirohi State: seizures 8, deaths 5. Hyderabad State—Naldrug district: total seizures not reported, 91 deaths. Gulbarga district: seizures 7, deaths 7. No plague reported elsewhere.

A second meeting of the leading merchants and sowcars was convened at 8 A. M. on the 10th March 1898 at Bangalore in the compound of Mr. V. P. Madhava Rao, Plague Commissioner, with the object chiefly of securing the co-operation of the townsmen in the matter of erecting segregation sheds for the different castes.

Present:

Mr. V. P. Madhava Rao, Plague Commissioner,
Mr. T. T. Leonard, President, City Municipality, Bangalore,
Dr. D. A. Choksi, Civil Surgeon and Health Officer,
Mr. R. B. Plumer, Assistant Commissioner on Special Plague Duty,

and the following residents of the City—

1. Mr. Vairgya Setti Nanjundappa.
2. „ P. Narana Setti.
3. „ Yajaman Basappa.
4. „ Eerabhadra Setti.
5. „ Kottige Mariyappa.
6. „ Do Timmaiya.
7. „ Setti Samanna.
8. „ D. Adappa.
9. „ Timmappa.
10. „ N. Narana Setti.
11. „ Ramaswami Setti.
12. „ Eerabhadra Setti.
13. „ Gurubasa Setti.
14. „ Bettahalsur Basanna.
15. „ Anjaneya Setti.
16. „ Gollahalli Chinnappa.
17. „ Siddaramanna.
18. „ Sankara Setti.
19. „ Syed Amir Ali Saheb.
20. „ Munigurappa.
21. „ Madimane Munesappa.
22. „ S. Papanna.
23. „ Venkatasubbaiya.
24. „ Lingauna.
25. „ Mandi Samanna.
26. Mr. Chikka Subbanna.
27. „ Chitamber Savjee.
28. „ Garadi Rachappa.
29. „ Krishnagiri Mariappa.
30. „ Gante Doddanna.
31. „ Malagappa.
32. „ Jade Munisamappa.
33. „ Chinnaswami Setti.
34. „ Pappanna.
35. „ China Angadi Venkataramanappa.
36. „ Nanjappa.
37. „ Sankara Savjee.
38. „ Company Subbanna.
39. „ Yajamana Nanjundappa.
40. „ Yale Hanumantappa.
41. „ Kavetappa.
42. „ Muradappa.
43. „ Devanna.
44. „ Hakim Abdullakhan Saheb.
45. „ Lakshmana Rao Sinde.
46. „ Gurappa Setti.
47. „ Hariram Misra.
48. „ Arsikere Rangaiya Setti.
49. „ Mandi Huchanna.
50. „ Khasim Saheb.

The Plague Commissioner explained to the meeting that in view of the facts that the plague showed no signs of abating in Bombay and that some indigenous cases had occurred in Hubli, the preventive measures proposed to be adopted at the last meeting required to be taken in hand at once. In the matter of segregation sheds, those put up by Government near the Magadi Chattram Hospital were intended for the general public. It may not be possible to make provision there for the requirements of each separate caste. The authorities had selected other sites outside the limits of the town, and expected the richer members of each caste to put up caste sheds on these sites where their own castemen could be attended to, and if they so wished, treated by their own Hakims and Vydias.

Quite right.—P. H. B.

Messrs. Khasim Saheb and Narana Setti said that as there had been no plague cases in Bangalore, putting up sheds would only cause unnecessary alarm. The Plague Commissioner explained that preventive measures had to be taken before the plague actually appeared. Everything was being done solely for the benefit of the people, and the alarm and panic will be too great when the first real case of plague had to be dealt with for any satisfactory arrangements being made for the comfort of the patients or their relations or for suitable provision for observance of caste customs.

I agree with this. I think if material was collected in situ, it would be sufficient.—P. H. B.

The need for improvement in the matter of conservancy and drainage of the City was again brought up. The Plague Commissioner said that Government would soon sanction funds and establishment for carrying out improvements in the City which in addition to being of help to keep out the plague will do lasting good to the City.

The Plague Commissioner also mentioned that in the matter of Inspection, 14 nurses, belonging to the different communities, were being trained for examining women.

Several of those present said that it would cause needless alarm if Government servants entered houses, administered medicines, and removed the patients.

Mr. Amir Ali explained at the instance of the Plague Commissioner that medicines would not be administered by force and that nurses and others would not remove patients. They would simply report to the higher authorities, and a person suspected to be suffering from the plague would be removed only under the orders of the higher authorities, such as the Plague Commissioner, Senior Surgeon, Civil Surgeon, or the Municipal President; what they (the meeting) were required to do was to put up caste sheds to which patients could be removed and where they could be attended to and every comfort and convenience provided. It was not as if patients were removed by force to strange hospitals and treated there against their will. The patient would be removed, as it were, to another house of his own and there attended to by his own people and doctors. This had to be done in the interests of the City at large.

This is what is intended.—P. H. B.

Mr. Hakim Abdul Khasim Saheb said that the disease was not contagious as doctors and others who attended on patients did not catch it.

The Plague Commissioner replied that it might or might not be contagious; but it was known that if it appeared in one place and was neglected, it would spread all over the locality and slowly and surely the whole country would be infected and it would be very difficult to get rid of it. Segregation had been found to be effective in arresting its progress in its earliest stage and localising it and eventually in stamping it out and so segregation could not be dispensed with. What the authorities wanted the people to do was to co-operate with them in order to make segregation, so to speak, voluntary rather than compulsory and as little attended with discomfort as possible.

Those present agreed to the Plague Commissioner's suggestion that representatives of each caste should, after consultation with the people, meet the President and the Amildar on a date to be fixed and decide about the selection of sites for erecting sheds.